

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Applicant is submitting one New Sheet including FIG. 3. FIG. 3 clearly illustrates lands that have T, L, H and crisscross shapes. Support for FIG. 3 may be found in FIG. 1 and at least at page 2, lines 27-30, and at page 3, lines 27-33, of the original Specification.

Attachment: 1 New Sheet

REMARKS

With this amendment, Applicant cancels claim 1 without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 2-15 are all the claims pending in the application.

I. Objection to the Drawings

The Examiner has objected to the drawings filed on July 22, 2003. Specifically, the Examiner states that the drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims and contends that the polygonal cavities and T, L, H and crisscross shapes are not shown.

Applicant submits that Fig. 1 clearly shows that the groupings of the lands form polygonal cavities. As illustrative, non-limiting examples of polygonal cavities, reference 6a points to a tetragonal cavity and reference 6b points to a triangular cavity. Therefore, Applicant submits that the figures show the claimed polygonal cavities since they show at least two non-limiting examples of polygonal cavities.

Applicant also submits that it is not practical for the drawings to show all possible formations of polygonal cavities. However, the Specification clearly describes to one skilled in the art that any number of polygonal shapes may be defined by choosing the number and arrangement of the lands. See at least page 3, lines 9-15, and page 4, lines 1-4, of the Specification.

Applicant is submitting a New Sheet including Fig. 3. Fig. 3 clearly illustrates lands that have T, L, H and crisscross (+) shapes. Support for Fig. 3 may be found in Fig. 1 and at least at page 2, lines 27-30, and at page 3, lines 27-33, of the original Specification.

II. Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The Examiner has rejected claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The Examiner alleges that claim 9 contains subject matter which was not described in the specification. Specifically, the Examiner contends that there is no support for a trapezoid.

Applicant submits that Fig. 2b and the specification at page 5, lines 10-11, provide support for the subject matter of claim 9 and enable one skilled in the art to make and use the invention.

The Examiner has rejected claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The Examiner contends that there is no antecedent basis for “polygonal cavity.”

Applicant submits that the modifications to claim 4 obviate the rejection, and claim 4 is allowable. Applicant notes that the Examiner has indicated that claim 4 has allowable subject matter (see Office Action of February 10, 2005).

III. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant thanks the Examiner for allowing claims 14 and 15 and for indicating that claims 3, 6-8, 10, 12 and 13 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicant has rewritten claims 3, 6, 7 and 12 in independent form. Applicant has also modified the dependencies of claims 2, 5, 8-10 and 13 to depend on claim 12, which contains allowable subject matter.

IV. Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 2, 5, and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Farrar (US 2,135,210) ["Farrar"]. For at least the following reason, Applicant traverses the rejection.

Applicant has canceled claim 1 without prejudice or disclaimer and has modified claims 2 and 5 to depend on claim 12, which has allowable subject matter. Therefore, claims 2, 5 and 11 are allowable.

V. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.


Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER


Bhaskar Kakarla
Registration No. 54,627

Date: November 1, 2005